

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6862

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AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 12077

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN PFOR CB VE

SUBJECT: KHMER CREDENTIALS AT 29TH UNGA: VENEZUELA

REF: A) STATE 266165; B) USUN 5711; C) USUN 5636

1. WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SCHACHT AND OTHER KEY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ABSENT IN LIMA TO ATTEND THE AYACUCHO SESQUICENTENNIAL AND WITH THE BULK OF THE OTHER SUBSTANTIVE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS IMMERSSED IN CURRENT DISCUSSIONS HERE WITH CENTRAL AMERICAN FOREIGN AND FINANCE MINISTERS, IT WAS WITH SOME DIFFICULTY THAT WE WERE ABLE TO LOCATE ANY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL WHO IS EITHER RESPONSIBLE FOR OR KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE KHMER CREDENTIALS PROBLEM IN THE UNGA.

2. HOWEVER, POL COUNSELOR MET DECEMBER 6 WITH DR. DESUCRE, THE MINISTRY'S ACTING HEAD OF UN AFFAIRS AND RANKING MINISTRY OFFICIAL PRESENTLY AVAILABLE. POL COUNSELOR WARMLY THANKED HER FOR VENEZUELA'S SUPPORT OF THE UNGA FRIENDLY DRAFT RESOLUTION ON CAMBODIA AND CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN STATE 266165 AND USUN 5636, EMPHASIZING VENEZUELA'S KEY ROLE ON THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE. DR DESUCRE APPEARED FAMILIAR WITH
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THE ISSUE, BUT EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT THE USSR IS EXPECTED TO

OPPOSE THE KHMER CREDENTIALS. SHE DID ADMIT THAT THE VENEZUELAN UN REPRESENTATIVE (CONSALVI) DOES NOT HAVE PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE KHMER CREDENTIALS ISSUE. SHE INDICATED THAT THE GOV POSITION IS TO SUPPORT THE GDR IN THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE AND ALSO IN THE PLENARY, AS THE GOV DID AT THE 28TH UNGA. POL COUNSELOR URGED THAT AMBASSADOR CONSALVI BE INSTRUCTED SPECIFICALLY TO DO SO IN ORDER TO COUNTER STRONG OPPOSITION BY SENEGAL AND OTHERS AND IN ORDER NOT TO ERODE THE NOVEMBER 27 VOTE ON THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. DR DE SUCRE AGREED TO TELEPHONE FOREIGN MINISTER SCHACHT IN LIMA THIS WEEKEND AND SEEK AUTHORITY TO INSTRUCT CONSALVI TO VOTE WITH US ON THE KHMER CREDENTIALS ISSUE.

3. DR DE SUCRE SUGGESTED USUN KEEP IN CONTACT WITH AMBASSADOR CONSALVI ON THIS MATTER.

4. RECOMMENDATION: IN VIEW OF THE UNAVAILABILITY OR ABSENCE FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF VIRTUALLY ALL DECISION-MAKING GOV OFFICIALS, I RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER REQUESTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS, NOW IN LIMA, TO RAISE THE MATTER WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SCHACHT IN ORDER TO NAIL DOWN POSITIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIM TO THE VENEZUELAN UN REPRESENTATIVES. MCCLINTOCK

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